

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 THESSA 00024 301322Z

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 TRSE-00

XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 CEA-01 STR-07

/094 W

-----088423 302026Z /45

R 301210Z JAN 78

FM AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2872

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

C O N F I D E N T I A L THESSALONIKI 0024

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, ECON, GR

SUBJECT: MUNICIPALITY ORGANIZES DEMONSTRATION OVER INFLATION

1. MAYOR PAPADOPOULOS AND THE LEFTIST MEMBERS OF THE THESSALONIKI CITY COUNCIL ORGANIZED A DEMONSTRATION, JANUARY 26, TO PROTEST THE RISING COST OF LIVING. THOUSANDS ATTENDED THE MEETING HELD OUTSIDE THE MAYOR'S OFFICE AND HEARD HIM, AS PRINCIPAL SPEAKER, ALLEGE THAT REAL WAGES ARE DECREASING, LARGE MONOPOLIES ARE CONTROLLING CERTAIN INDUSTRIES, FOREIGN COMPANIES ARE TAKING OVER OTHER INDUSTRIES, AND THE STATE MONOPOLIES (OTE, PPC, ETC.) ARE SURPRESSING THE CONSUMER. THE GATHERING APPROVED A RESOLUTION DEMANDING A 30 PERCENT INCREASE IN DAILY WAGES, THAT PENSIONS BE INCREASED TO 80 PERCENT OF SALARIES, AND THAT WAGES AND PENSIONS BE TIED TO THE COST-OF-LIVING INDEX TO PROVIDE FOR AUTOMATIC INCREASES FOR INFLATION.

2. PAPADOPOULOS HAS SEIZED THE COST-OF-LIVING ISSUE AS HE HAS OTHERS SUCH AS INDUSTRIAL POLLUTION TO ATTACK THE CARAMANLIS GOVERNMENT AND ATTEMPT TO INCREASE  
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THE IMPORTANCE AND POWER OF HIS OFFICE VIS-A-VIS THE LOCAL NOMARCH. AN INCREASE IN SELF-GOVERNMENT IS WHAT HE IS REALLY AFTER AND BY CHAMPIONING POPULAR ISSUES WHICH PUT THE GOG ON THE DEFENSIVE HE HAS HAD SOME SUCCESS IN INCREASING HIS OWN STATURE LOCALLY. RECENTLY, THE NOMARCH ACQUIESCED IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF JOINT COMMITTEE CHAIRED BY HIMSELF AND THE MAYOR

TO DISCUSS MUNICIPAL ISSUES. IT IS UNLIKELY, HOWEVER, THAT  
ANY OF PAPADOPOULOS' EFFORTS WILL RESULT IN ANY  
GENUINE INCREASE IN LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT. WHAT HIS  
EFFORTS WILL DO IS HELP TO ORGANIZE AND ENHANCE  
PUBLIC DISCONTENT OVER BASIC ISSUES SUCH AS INFLATION,  
WAGES, URBAN CONGESTION, AND POOR EDUCATIONAL  
FACILITIES TO THE EMBARRASSMENT OF THE GOG.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** INFLATION, PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, MUNICIPALITY  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 30 jan 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
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**Expiration:**  
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**Review Markings:**  
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